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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/889,324  
Applicant : Shizuo AKIRA et al.  
Filed : July 13, 2001  
Art Unit : 1636  
Examiner : Qian, Celine X

Docket No. : 31671-173143  
Customer No. : 26694

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2004, the Application is amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 11.

If the Patent Office deems that any fees are necessary, authorization is hereby granted to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.